

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 058932

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ORIGIN EB-07

INFO OCT-01 CCO-00 SS-15 SSO-00 ISO-00 NSC-05 NSCE-00 SP-02

PM-03 SAM-01 INR-07 CIAE-00 EUR-12 INRE-00 /053 R

DRAFTED BY EB/AN:MSTYLES:MH

APPROVED BY EB:TOENDERS

EUR/WE:MR. MARSH

S/S-JLHOGANSON

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY AMMAN IMMEDIATE

INFO AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 058932

TOSEC 607

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: EAIR, NL

SUBJECT: KLM CAPACITY

REF: TOSEC 529, HAGUE 1364

1. FOLLOWING IS TEXT OF LETTER FROM VAN DER STOEL TO SECRETARY DELIVERED BY NETHERLANDS EMBASSY TO DEPARTMENT 4:45 P.M MARCH 14: QUOTE DEAR MR. SECRETARY, THANK YOU FOR YOUR LETTER OF MARCH 11 CONFIRMING YOUR DESIRE, WHICH I SHARE, TO FIND A MUTUALLY ACCEPTABLE SETTLEMENT TO THE CURRENT CAPACITY PROBLEM ON THE NORTH ATLANTIC.

I APPRECIATE AND VALUE YOUR PERSONAL AND CONSTRUCTIVE INTERVENTION IN THIS MATTER.

WE ON OUR PART APPROACHED THE MOST RECENT ROUND OF CONSULTATIONS LAST JANUARY, PREPARED TO DO EVERYTHING IN OUR  
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PAGE 02 STATE 058932

POWER TO CONTRIBUTE TO A NEGOTIATED SETTLEMENT.

I MAY CALL TO YOUR ATTENTION IN THIS RESPECT, THAT MINISTER WESTERTERP MADE A PROPOSAL TO REDUCE KLM'S FREQUENCIES BY 3 SERVICES - FROM 26 TO 23 WEEKLY FREQUENCIES. MINISTER WESTERTERP'S INFORMAL SOUNDING WHETHER A COMPROMISE COULD BE FOUND IF HE WERE TO PROPOSE A REDUCTION OF APPROXIMATELY

20 PERCENT, I.E. TO A LEVEL OF 21 OR 22 FREQUENCIES, WAS MADE IN A SINCERE AND FINAL EFFORT TO FIND A SOLUTION EVEN AT HEAVY COST TO KLM.

BECAUSE OF ITS CONSIDERABLE ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL IMPACT ON THE NETHERLANDS AS A WHOLE, IT WOULD REQUIRE A GREAT EFFORT TO OBTAIN CABINET-APPROVAL TO MAKE A FORMAL PROPOSAL TO THIS EFFECT. MOREOVER, I CAN ASSURE YOU THAT PARLIAMENT AND THE UNIONS WILL PROVE EXTREMELY CRITICAL IF IT WERE MADE. THE PRESSURES IN THE NETHERLANDS ARE NO LESS STRONG THAN THOSE YOU ARE EXPERIENCING IN YOUR COUNTRY.

YOU WILL THEREFORE UNDERSTAND, THAT THE SPECIFIC SOLUTION THAT YOU PROPOSE - 18 FREQUENCIES AND 540,000 SEATS - MEANING AS IT DOES A 30 PERCENT REDUCTION OF FREQUENCIES, OR ALMOST ONE IN THREE, IS DISAPPOINTING. NEVERTHELESS, I AM FULLY AWARE OF THE REAL AND SINCERE EFFORT MADE ON YOUR PART IN ADVANCING THIS PROPOSAL.

CONSIDERING THE ATTITUDE SHOWN ON BOTH SIDES, I TRUST YOU WILL AGREE WITH ME THAT, AS WE HAD INTENDED LAST DECEMBER IN BRUSSELS, THE PROPER CLIMATE NOW EXISTS IN WHICH TO CONTINUE OUR EFFORTS TO COME TO A NEGOTIATED SETTLEMENT.

I TAKE THIS OPPORTUNITY TO WISH YOU MUCH SUCCESS IN YOUR EFFORTS TO PROMOTE THE CHANCES FOR PEACE IN THE MIDDLE EAST. END QUOTE.

2. FOR THE SECRETARY'S PARTY: WE ARE PREPARING ACTION RECOMMENDATION FOR THE SECRETARY'S APPROVAL AND WILL CABLE THIS FIRST OF NEXT WEEK (MARCH 17). INGERSOLL

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## Message Attributes

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